ETC

Education Telecommunications Council

EDUCATION TELECOMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL
NOTES
June 4, 2009

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The June 4, 2009, meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council was held at Iowa Public Television and various ICN sites. The following members were present at the meeting: **Al Bode**, ISEA; **Jim Bodensteiner**, Regents; **Kenneth Colwell**, IAICU; **Greg Davis**, IASB; **Tom Kruse**, IAICU; **Bruce McKee** for **Ellen Kabat Lensch**, IACCT; **Sally Lindgren**, AEA Boards; **Carol Montz**, SAI; **Kathryn O'Shaughnessy**, ISEA; **Terry Rinehart**, IPTV; **Kay Runge**, DE/Libraries; **Scott Drake** for **Chet Rzonca**, Regents; **Gail Sullivan**, DE; **Jean Torgeson**, IACCT; **Mary Wieser**, DE/CIANS; and **Frank Wood**, SAI. **Mary Gannon,** IASB; and **Glenn Grove**, AEA Boards were absent.

The following guests were also present at the meeting: **Joe Cassis** and **Tami Fujinaka**, ICN; **Theresa Ziegler**, RTC 3 Coordinator; **Kathy Goebel**, Region 5 Scheduler; **Julie Thomas**, RTC 6 Coordinator; **Mark Steffen**, RTC 11 Coordinator and **Wendy Robinson**, RTC 11; **Lyneé Klaus** and **Arletta Dawson**, Heartland AEA 11; **Linda Abel**, RTC 15; **Gwen Nagel**, Dept of Ed; **Robin Madison**, Legislative Services Agency, and **Deb Fiscus**, IPTV.

A few changes in membership have occurred with this meeting. Al Bode has resigned his position as one of the original ISEA representatives, appointed in 1994. A memo will be sent to ISEA requesting a new appointment.

Also, two members have been appointed since the December meeting—IAICU appointed Tom Kruse to replace Ken Clipperton, and SAI appointed Carol Montz to replace Dean Cook.

II. UPDATES

IIA.   ICN Legislative Update

Tami Fujinaka provided members with an update on the 2009 Legislative session, highlighting the bills that impact the ICN, ETC, and RTCs. A summary of this report follows. For further information, contact Tami Fujinaka at Tami.Fujinaka@Iowa.gov.

> **Equipment Appropriation $2,211,86**
> *Will ensure the basic requirements of ICN users are met and address two different funding issues affecting the ICN: replacement of aging equipment or industry*

compatible equipment on the network to ensure connectivity, and state appropriated capital investment requirement allowing the state to receive infrastructure capital $1.7 million USF dollars on behalf of schools and libraries

Generator Appropriation　　$2,755,246

If the normal power source fails, generators are vital in making sure that the power required to transport information on the fiber optic network is available. The generators have aged beyond their life span and replacement parts and spares are sparse or no longer available depending on the failed component. After researching the options, ICN staff has concluded that a one-time replacement of the generators is the best financial strategy.

Voice Redundancy Approp　　$2,320,000

Provides redundancy for the voice services on the capitol complex for the contingency of government operations in case of telecommunications failure.

Broadband Grants　　　　　$25,000,000

Provides grant funding for projects that deploy and sustain access to high-speed broadband in Iowa. The grants will be made through a new Governance Board created for purpose of promoting universal access to high-speed broadband service through Iowa and for the sustainability of those services. The Governance Board will be established by the ITTC, the Iowa Economic Development Board and the Iowa Utilities Board. The membership will include three educational user members, two urban residential users, three members representing broadband and telecommunications providers and three members from state government (ITTC, IUB and Iowa Economic Development Board.) More information can be found at:
http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?Category=billinfo&Service=Billbook&menu=false&hbill=SF372

Part III FY 2008 Appropriation (Dept. of Education) $2,727,000

This is the current level of funding. The appropriation is used to pay a portion of the leases for connections from schools, libraries, and AEAs to the ICN.

RTC Appropriation (IPTV)　　$1,232,071

This funding is used to provide technical assistance for ICN classrooms, planning and troubleshooting for local area networks, scheduling of video sites and other related support activities. Appropriated to IPTV.

IIB.　Broadband Strategies Based on ARRA (Stimulus Package)

Joe Cassis provided members with an update on broadband strategies—the joint governance board is strongly emphasizing that collaboration is extremely important. The understanding thus far is that the ARRA is $7.2 billion dollars to be divided between the 50 states in three disbursements over the course of the next three years. It has also been designated that there will be at least one project per state and that they will be requesting state guidance. The state will be involved in whatever the grant might be, but it has to be a public-private

partnership. It is not restricted by anyone, rules haven't been established yet and any type of non-profit or corporate grant can be submitted. If Iowa sits back and waits to construct the appropriate governance boards, we are at risk of being left behind—time is of the essence because other states and companies are already in line to request the money.
Following is the link to the Broadband Report by FCC Acting Director Michael Copps that Joe referenced in his report: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-291012A1.pdf
For more information about the broadband strategy project, contact Joe Cassis at Joseph.Cassis@iowa.gov.

IIC.   IPTV K-12 Connections Project
Terry Rinehart distributed the IPTV K-12 Connections Report for FY09. The K-12 Connections project is a collaboration between the ICN and IPTV. As of the end of April, there were a total of 546 ICN sessions with 5,223 sites and 7,152.38 hours generated. 75% of the hours generated were for K-12 classroom activities and 25% were for educator or other school staff professional development/training activities. IPTV was able to secure some grant funding during the year to help support these activities.   For more information about the K-12 Connections project, contact Terry Rinehart at Terry.Rinehart@iptv.org.

IID.   ETC/EOA Committee Update
Greg Davis updated the ETC and guests about the activities of the EOA committee thus far. Prior to the meeting, Greg sent a report to the members and guests that was prepared by SETDA (State Education Technology Directors) entitled, *"High Speed Broadband Access for All Kids: Breaking Through the Barriers"* that will be discussed by the EOA committee. He also informed the group about a new web site that's still in it's infancy for the EOA committee on Wiki space. For more information go to: http://etceoa.wikispaces.com/.

Gail Sullivan and Gwen Nagel provided information about a task force that is being formed by the Dept of Ed to look at how to expand distance education in Iowa. It was stated that a collaboration between the ETC and the task force should be pursued to form a vision document that could be taken to the entities represented on the ETC for their use in lobbying the legislature. A lengthy discussion followed.

III.   ISSUES
IIIA. Approval of 2010 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines
The 2010 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines were approved as submitted with the following motion:

MOTION 1
Kay Runge made a motion to approve the 2010 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines as submitted. Jean Torgeson seconded. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Ayes-16; Nays-0; Not voting-0; Absent-2.

Area Education Agency Board • Iowa Association of Community College Trustees • Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Iowa Association of School Boards • Iowa Department of Education • Iowa Public Television • Iowa State Education Association
School Administrators of Iowa • State Board of Regents

IIIB. Approval of Recommended RTC Funding Plan and Guidelines for FY2010
Debbie Fiscus provided the DRAFT Recommended RTC Funding Plan and Guidelines for FY 2010. She stated that since the funding level was cut by 8.33% for FY2010 the per site amount was decreased from $1,565 per site to $1,342 per site but the base amount per region remained the same as FY09 at $41,350.

An error was found in the table heading on the first page of the document—FY09 should have been FY10.

MOTION 2
Al Bode made a motion to approve the RTC Funding Plan and Guidelines for FY2010 as corrected. Terry Rinehart seconded. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Ayes-16; Nays-0; Not voting-0; Absent-2.

The recommended RTC Funding Plan and Guidelines for FY2010 were approved as corrected. The guidelines will be sent to the Iowa Public Broadcasting Board for approval at their meeting on June 10, 2009.

IIIC. Recruitment of ETC members for Review of RTC Plans
Debbie Fiscus asked for volunteers to help review the RTC funding plans. Those members who volunteered are Greg Davis, Jean Torgeson, and Ken Colwell.

IIID. Recommendation to the ITTC for Educational Video Rates for FY2011
After a brief discussion it was decided that Greg Davis will draft a memo to the ITTC recommending ICN educational video rates for FY2011. The draft memo will be sent to ETC members for feedback prior to being sent to the ITTC. The following motion was made:

MOTION 3
Kay Runge made motion for Greg Davis to draft a memo to the ITTC recommending ICN educational video rates for FY2011. Jean Torgeson seconded. All in favor. Motion was approved unanimously.

Ayes-15; Nays-0; Not voting-0; Absent-3.

IIIE. Recommended Funding Request for RTC Support for FY2011
Following a discussion by those in attendance, it was suggested that the ETC should recommend that the RTC funding request for FY2011 remain status quo at the current FY2010 level. The following motion was made:

MOTION 4
Jean Torgeson made a motion to recommend that the funding request for RTC support in FY 2011 remain status quo at the FY2010 level of $1,232,071. Al Bode seconded. All in favor. Motion was approved unanimously.
Ayes-14; Nays-0; Not voting-0; Absent-4.

IV.   MISCELLANEOUS
There were no items from the floor.

V. ADJOURNMENT
The June 4, 2009 meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next scheduled meeting of the ETC is December 17, 2009 at Iowa Public Television.

ETC Notes--6-4-09